čʔéʔɬx̣ʷaʔ syə́cəm

November 2026



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Lower Elwha Business Committee



Back Row:
Tia Skerbeck, Secretary/Treasurer
Steve Robideau, Vice-Chairman

Front Row:
Melissa Gilman, Chairwoman
Frances Charles, Council Member
Russell Hepfer, Council Member

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
2851 Lower Elwha Road
Port Angeles, WA 98363
Phone: (360) 452-8471
Fax: (360) 452-8479

ʔéʔɬx̣ʷaʔ nəxʷsƛ̓áyə̓mˀ — The Strong People

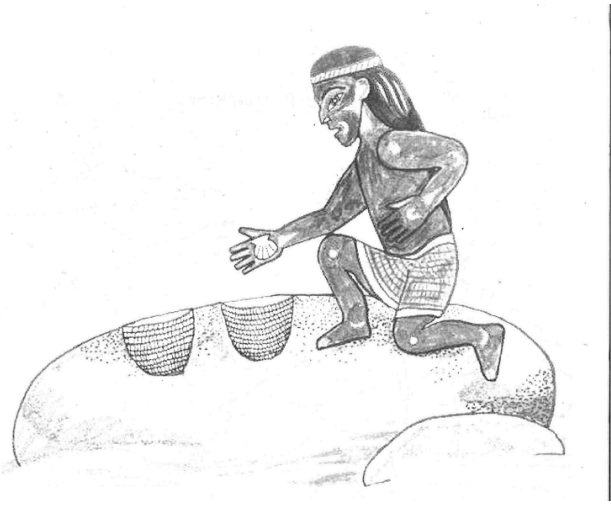
The Vision of the Elwha Klallam Tribe is to ensure that the Lower Elwha Klallam people can pass on their way of life to their children.

The Mission is to build a strong and healthy sovereign nation where Tribal members live their values and culture.

This means enhancing the lives of our people both physically and spiritually through social well being and economic independence while preserving and enhancing our natural resources and cultural heritage.

The Creation Story

Klallam legends tell of a sacred place on the Elwha River where humans were created, bathed and blessed. There are 2 holes in the river bed that contain water, called spčúʔ, which means “coiled basket”. These holes are the places from which dirt was scooped, out of which the Creator formed humans. Throughout time this is the place where people went to get information about their future. For example, if you reached into the water and pulled out a deer hair, you would be a good hunter. If you pulled out a fish bone it meant you would be a good fisherman. Before visiting this site the people would first cleanse and prepare their minds and bodies by fasting, meditating, and bathing.



ʔəy̓sk̓ʷáči Council Corner

Return of 1,082 Acres of the Elwha Watershed!

On October 20, 2026, legislation was signed into law returning approximately 1,082 acres of Elwha River Project lands to the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. These lands were once covered by Lake Aldwell before the Elwha Dam was removed. Long before the dams were built, our people lived, fished, harvested, and cared for the river and these lands.

Their return reconnects us with important ancestral places, including our creation site and numerous documented archaeological sites and villages. We honor and thank the tireless efforts of our ancestors, past and present Tribal Council members and staff, and the community members and supporters who stood with the Tribe throughout the decades-long effort to remove the dams and bring these lands home.

We are grateful to everyone who supported this journey. This land return is a meaningful step in restoring our connection to our ancestral lands, protecting our cultural resources, and carrying these responsibilities forward for future generations.

General Community Council Meetings

The October General Community Council meeting had a great turnout, with additional community members listening in online! We heard program updates from Law and Order, Social Services, and Natural Resources, along with an update on the Fiber to Home project and an overview of ongoing beach erosion.

It was wonderful to see so many community members participate. We hope to continue offering the virtual listen-in option for those who cannot attend in person.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the November meeting, especially with the community dinner taking place beforehand. What a great time to be Elwha!

Recent Committee Appointments and Bylaw Updates

Several committee appointments and reappointments took place in October. Sharmaine Wright and Tammy Hesshughes were reappointed to the Elections Committee, and Jonathan Arakawa was appointed to his first term. Sharmaine Wright was also appointed as the newest member of the Gaming Commission.

The Housing Committee bylaws are scheduled for approval at the November General Community Council meeting. Once approved, an announcement will be made inviting community members to apply for committee positions.

We are continuing to update committee bylaws and work toward filling vacant positions as quickly as possible. We appreciate everyone who steps forward to serve our community



Memories – háʔhəkʷtxʷ by Jamie Valadez

What makes memories special is the people that we fill them with. These memories can help us develop in the future, form our cultural identity, and feel connected with our tribal community. We grow memories through interactions with our extended family, our tribal community, especially our elders.

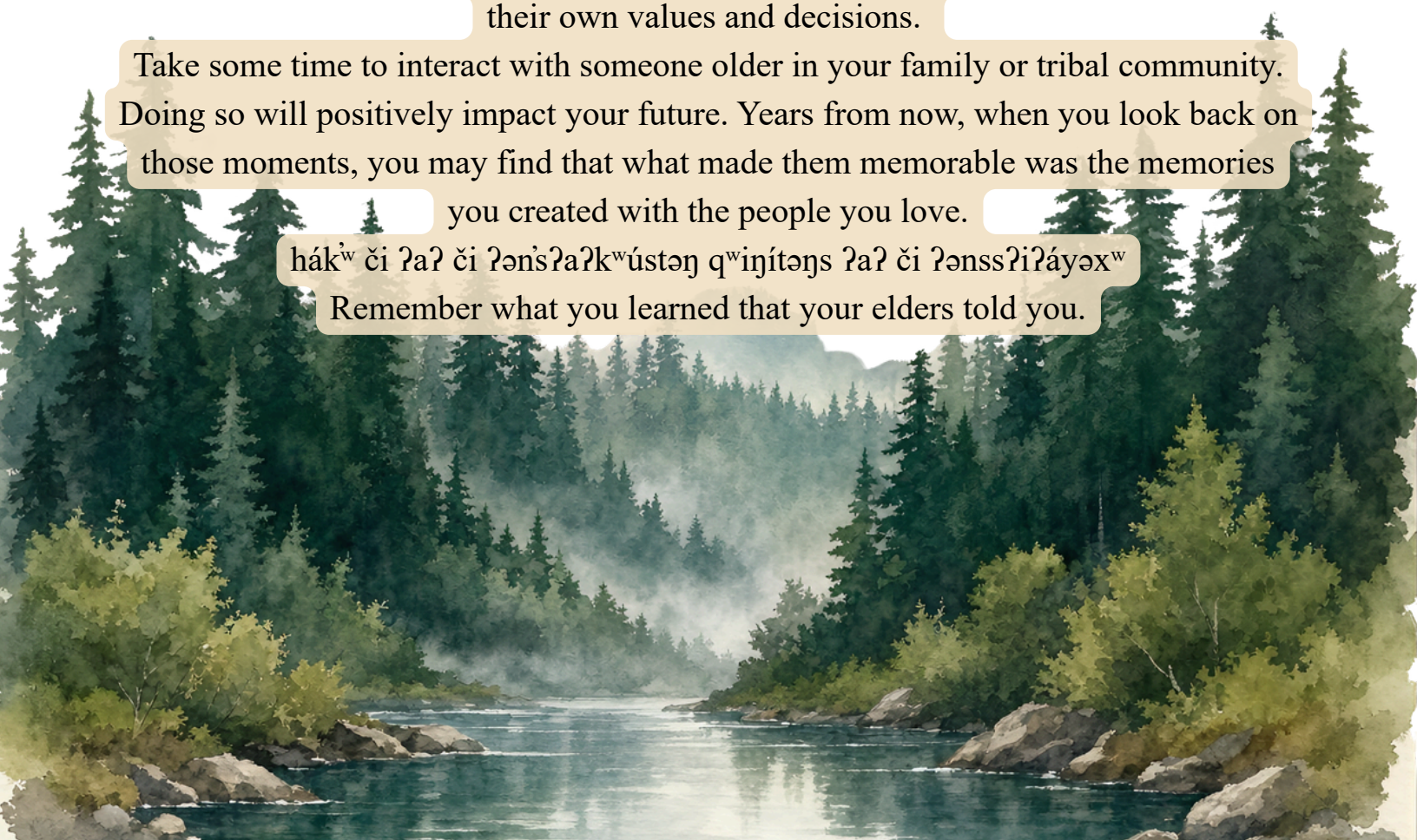
Shared conversations help make these memories permanent and a significant part of our lives. We learn different things from our family that is directly tied to the land that we live on, and teach us who we are. I may not always have my grandmother with me, but I will always have her memories.

Those memories become permanent, because emotion plays a huge role. hánḵʷs is the place in our body where we hold our emotions (solar plexis). We remember things longer and more vividly when senses, like feeling happy and loved take part in those memories. Leading to the ability to use those experiences subconsciously in our decision making as adults.

Spend time with your elders, asking questions, listening to their childhood memories. Learning from your elders will help you build stronger cognition skills, greater adaptability for learning and better stress responses. When family values and cultural ways are taught to children, those traditions become embedded in the framework of their own values and decisions.

Take some time to interact with someone older in your family or tribal community. Doing so will positively impact your future. Years from now, when you look back on those moments, you may find that what made them memorable was the memories you created with the people you love.

hákʷ či ʔaʔ či ʔənsʔaʔkʷústəŋ qʷiŋítəŋs ʔaʔ či ʔənssʔiʔáyəxʷ
Remember what you learned that your elders told you.



IN LOVING *memory*



JENNIFER LYNN VOLLIN

6/21/1953 - 10/09/2026

In Loving Memory of

Jennifer Lynn Vollin

Sunrise: June 21, 1953, Port Angeles, WA to
Sunset: October 9, 2026, Missoula, MT

Celebration of Life

October 15, 2026 • 10:30 AM
Lower Elwha Gym
Officiating • Harold "Fudd" Charles

Burial

The Place Cemetery

Dinner to follow at the

Lower Elwha Dining Hall

Survived By

Husband: Daniel Vollin
Daughters: Dacia, Tanya, and Rosie Vollin
Son: Lloyd Vollin
Sister: Angela Sampson
Grandchildren: Daniel & Loretta Vollin, Naomi Fishe & Deja-Nay Little Mary, Brianna, Amber, and Emily Curry.
Great-Grandson: Anthony Vollin
Numerous Uncles, Aunts, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins and Friends

Preceded By

Parents: Charles M. Sampson Sr. &
Rosie V. (Charles) Sampson
Grandparents: Rosalie (Thomas) Charles &
Phil "Skipper" Charles Sr., Ernest Sampson Sr. & Sadie Elliott
Brothers: Charles M. Sampson Jr., & Glenn R. Sampson
Sisters: Phyllis, Valerie, & Mary Sampson & Rose Wilson

Community Health

October Highlights

Keep an eye on the Wellness Garden at KCS!

Garden rejuvenation efforts are in the works this fall with the purchase of a greenhouse, pergola, garden and harvesting tools, additional raised beds and two structures that will be utilized to host cultural events and 1:1 group sessions for KCS and behavioral health.



The wellness garden is focused on growing medicinal plants to harvest and process into herbal medicines and provide hands-on learning and therapeutic experiences for the community.

As we prepare the garden for the 2027 growing and harvesting season, we invite the community to keep an eye out for updates on the wellness garden as well as for invitations to join planning meetings and work parties to shape and grow garden initiatives this winter and beyond.



Happy birthday to Malena Rose! Forever my Elwha Queen! Nov.8. Lucky to share this special day with her late Uncles Jerry and Walt. happy heavenly birthday uncles! ❤️ ~WRS

COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING

WHEN

November 4th
6pm

WHERE

The Veteran's Center
247 Ns Klallam Dr

Join us for food, door prizes, community safety information and emergency preparedness kits

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- GO OVER EVACUATION ROUTES
- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
- CREATE SAFETY PLAN
- RECEIVE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
- HOME SECURITY
- OPERATION ID

COMMUNITY CRISIS

- RESPONDS TO NON-VIOLENT MENTAL-HEALTH CRISIS
- SUPPORTS PEOPLE EXPERIENCING SUICIDAL THOUGHTS
- PROVIDES SUPPORT, FOLLOW UP AND REFERRALS

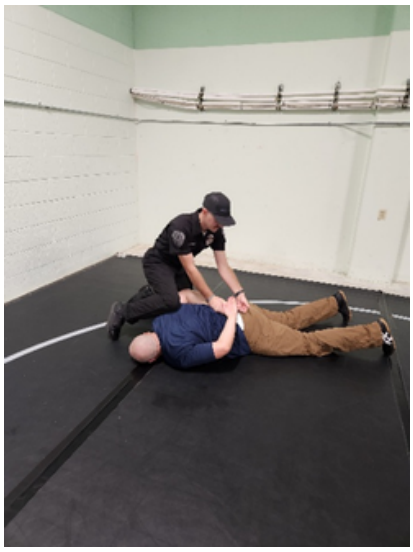
LEPD September 2026 Calls

Call type	Total
Building Check	190
Patrol Request	88
Community Oriented Policing	54
Traffic Stop	50
CC - Citizen Contact	30
Stonegarden	22
Other Agency Assist	13
Follow Up	12
Transport - Inmate	10
Suspicious Activity	9
Citizen Assist	6
Open Door Window	6
TC	6
Warrant Attempt	5
Alarm - Burg/Panic	4
Traffic Hazard	4
Assault	3
Disabled Vehicle	3
Disturbance	3
911 Hangup/Misdial	2
Boat - Patrol	2
CPS - Child Protective Services	2
Theft	2
Trespass	2
Unwanted Person	2
Violation Of Court Order	2
Warrant Arrest	2
Welfare Check	2
Unspecified	2
APS - Adult Protective Services	1
Alarm - Bank	1
Animal - Abuse	1
Civil - Issue	1
Civil - Paper Service	1
Code Enforcement	1
DUI	1
Drug Violation	1
Harassment	1
Info Misc	1
Junk Vehicle	1
Malicious Mischief	1
Mental Person ITA	1
Property - Found	1
Property - Lost	1
Rescue - SAR	1
Suicide - Attempt Threats	1
Weapons Discharge	1
Weapons Violation	1
Grand total	557

Lower Elwha Klallam Police News

Sergeant Grimes and Chief became certified Control and Defensive tactics Instructor through Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission in May of 2026.







September 30, 2026, Sergeant Grimes and Chief White taught the second class to the Officers. The class focused on basics of police arrest tactics.

October 1, 2026, Natural Resources Officer Charles and Limited Commission Investigator Guy Cranor, conducted a Drone patrol of the Lower Elwha River during the fishing opener.





Drone can fly in the gusty winds, and the camera can look straight down and see the fish in the boats.

The Drone can be used for search and rescue should the need arise. Guy Cranor is a certified drone operator.

Policy Council members for the school Year 2026-2027



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
JENNIFER MOBLEY- MEMBER AT LARGE
KATRINA AYALA- MEMBER AT LARGE
SHAYLA NAGEL- PRESIDENT
AMY REED- SECRETARY

Policy Council is an opportunity for parents to be a part of the decision making process and have a voice. They review all enrollment, budgets and policies for the Lower Elwha Head Start Early Head Start program. It is all volunteer. Huge thank you to the current and past policy councils for their continued support.



Nikki Adams
Head Start Rep



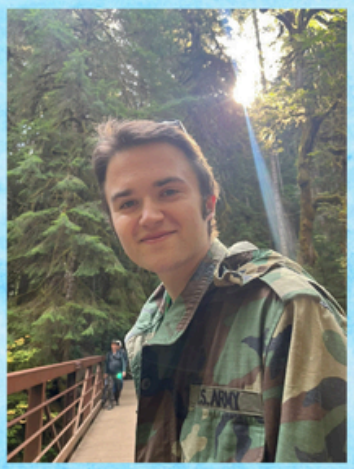
Rebecca Thompson
Early Head Start Rep



Stephen Hales
Head Start Rep



Noah Brady
Vice President



Richard Lightfoot
Treasurer



SMS NEWSLETTER

October 2026



As SMS students wrap up their volleyball, football, and cross country seasons, we look forward to girls basketball starting in late October! This year, the girls will play first. SMS has also selected our Associated Student Body officers for the year. Congratulations to O'Shea Charles, 7th Grade Senator! As we close out October, we look forward to spirit week, teacher conferences, and wrapping up first quarter strong!



Students of the Month and what their teachers had to say!

- Tony Cargo: Tony has a positive impact on the classroom environment, he is calm, cool and collected. He is also willing to support his peers when they need help and does so with kindness and patience.
- Jaidyn Eastman: Jaidyn has a natural ability at Klallam language, demonstrates his learning proudly and is a natural leader in the classroom.
- Sparrow Little Youngman: Sparrow is a leader in our class. He is always prepared, working hard, and contributing to class activities. Great start to the year Sparrow!



After School Programs (join anytime!)

- Monday: Homework Club 3:15-4:15
- Tuesday: Carving with STRONG Program 3:30-4:30
- Wednesday: Homework Club 3:15-4:15
- Thursday: Adventure Club with Communtiy Health 3:15-4:30

Rides provided, please contact Maddie for more information!

madeline.mclean@elwha.org

Recreation Calendar

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	3 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	4 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Yoga 5pm-6pm MS/HS Open Gym Basketball 6:30pm-8:30pm	5 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	6 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Nerf Night 6:30pm-8:30pm	7 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm
8	9 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	10 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	11 Veteran's Day Gym Closed	12 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	13 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Black Light Night 5:30pm-8:30pm	14 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm
15	16 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	17 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	18 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Yoga 5pm-6pm MS/HS Open Gym Basketball 6:30pm-8:30pm	19 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	20 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	21 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm
22	23 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	24 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	25 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Yoga 5pm-6pm MS/HS Open Gym Basketball 6:30pm-8:30pm	26 Gym Closed Thanksgiving	27 Gym Closed	28 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm
29	30 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	Gym Hours – Monday – Friday 8am-8:30pm Bathrooms/Saunas close at 8:15pm Hours/Events are subject to change Gym Floor reserved for After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm				

STRONG Program

November Classes

Mondays & Tuesdays 10 am - 4 pm Paddle Carving at House of Cedar, 2851 Lower Elwha Rd

Wednesdays 1-4 pm at Gathering Place, 247 Ns Klallam Dr

Thursdays & Fridays 1-4 pm Rattle Carving at Heritage Center, 401 E 1st St, Port Angeles, WA 98362

December Classes

Monday & Tuesday 10 am to 4:30 pm
Wolf Mask carving @ House of Cedar, 2851 Lower Elwha Rd

Thursday 9 am to 4:30 pm
Hide processing @ House of Cedar, 2851 Lower Elwha Rd

Contact Info: Darrell Charles (564) 215.1202

Library

November is Native American Heritage Month!

Join the Lower Elwha Library in celebrating Native American Heritage Month by reading a book by an indigenous author this month! Although we feature Native authors year-round, November is the time to celebrate Native American heritage and culture, so here are some of our most recent arrivals by Native authors:

- *Off the Reservation* (Book 2 of *The Only Good Indians* series) by Stephen Graham Jones
- *The Water Remembers: My Indigenous Family's Fight to Save a River and a Way of Life* by Amy Bowers Cordalis
- *We Survived the Night* by Julian Brave NoiseCat
- *Dancing to the Ticking of the Doomsday Clock* by Rena Priest
- *Here Come the Aunties!* by Cyntia Leitich Smith



Weekly Classes for November

Weekly technology and digital literacy classes are back and are now scheduled from 1-2pm on remotely on Microsoft Teams or in the Library. Classes labeled with NSDL are eligible for a credential if completed with a proctored exam, also available in the Library. If you are unable to attend at the scheduled time, please reach out to Jason M at Jason.morris@elwha.org to schedule a session at a time which works for you. Here is this month's schedule:

- Nov. 4: AI Literacy: How to Use Artificial Intelligence Responsibly and Avoid Being Fooled by It
- Nov. 11: No class, Library closed for Veterans Day
- Nov. 18: Intro to Microsoft Word (NSDL)
- Nov. 25: Intro to Microsoft Excel (NSDL)
- Dec. 2: Cybersecurity Basics (NSDL)

Klallam Counseling

Culture • Healing • Strength • Community

Community Update

Under New Guidance and Management

Klallam Counseling Services is pleased to share that the program is now under new management, with Josh McCool serving as Treatment Manager. Supporting his work are Becky Shimko, Clinical Services Coordinator; Ty Boe, Co-Occuring Services Coordinator; and A.J. Teel, You Services Coordinator. Together, the team is committed to strenthening services that are compassionate, culturally grounded, and responsive to the needs of the Tribe.

Recovery Dinner Success

We are grateful to share that our recent recovery dinner went very well. It was a meaningful opportunity to gather, connect, and celebrate recovery within our community. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event.

(360) 452-4432

243613 US-101 W
Port Angeles, WA 98363

Klallam Counseling

Culture • Healing • Strength • Community

KCS Youth Program

Klallam Counseling Services is excited to announce that we are expanding our youth services. Our program is led by AJ Teel, SUDP, focusing on supporting our local youth population through connection, encouragement, and culturally grounded care. Groups for youth in need of substance use treatment are expected to begin soon.

Expanding Access to Mental Health Care

We are pleased to announce that Jennifer Smith-Grady, MS, ARNP, will be providing services at Klallam Counseling Services. Jennifer is a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practictioner and Family Nurse Practictioner. Her presence at our facility will help strenghten coordinated care and access to mental health support for our community.

Our Focus

- Centering culture, healing, & recovery
- Being present for the Tribe & Tribal Youth
- Supporting recovery, and mental health needs
- Building connection, hope, and community wellness

We are here for the Tribe, the community, and our youth

(360) 452-4432

243613 US-101 W
Port Angeles, WA 98363

What People Don't Understand About Grants

One of the primary duties of the Planning Department is to work with other departments to locate and apply for grant funding to support community projects and tribal services. If or when grants are awarded and funding received, the work is not over it's just beginning.

Grants are not "free money" or a quick fix for cash flow. Instead, securing a grant is a rigorous process of competing for funding dedicated to a specific cause. To receive an award, organizations must submit detailed applications and undergo strict evaluation. Each grant maker (funder) sets specific guidelines, rigid eligibility criteria, and firm deadlines.

If awarded, the funds must be used exactly as outlined in your proposal. Winning a grant is only the beginning; thereafter, the real work shifts to detailed grants administration, management, compliance and reporting.

It is essential to understand five core realities of the process:

1. Grants are not "free money"

If the grant is awarded, the Tribe enters into a grant agreement with the funder and must use the funds for approved activities and expenses consistent with the funder's requirements.

- Strict Rules: You cannot spend grant funds on whatever you want. Every dollar must align with the funder-approved proposal budget.
- Reimbursement Basis: Many government and large institutional grants operate on a reimbursement basis. Your organization must spend its own cash up front and wait 30 to 90 days (or longer) to get paid back.
- Return of Funds: Every grant has required activities. If you misuse the money, fail to carry out the activities, or do not complete the agreed-upon project, the funder can legally demand the money back. In some cases, it can be considered fraud.

2. The Odds and Competition Are Brutal

The application process is time-consuming, complex, and highly demanding.

- Low Win Rates: Even strong applications may not be funded because demand can exceed available resources. Competition differs from program to program, so it is important to choose opportunities that fit the proposed project.
- Rigid Eligibility: Funders strictly enforce eligibility requirements. If your organization or project does not fit their criteria, your application will be disqualified.
- Misaligned Applications: Sometimes, you can write a great application and still not be funded. If a funder shifts their strategic priorities, your project may no longer match their focus. Applying to a mismatched funder is like interviewing for a job that isn't actually open.

3. Matching Funds Are Often Required

Many people do not realize that you often need money to get money.

·Matching Contributions: Some federal and state grants require applicants to contribute a share of the project cost. The amount and type of "match" or "cost share" depends on the program. Eligible contributions may include cash or in-kind support (labor, materials, services). Some grants require a match of 25% to 75% from the applicant or approved partners. Other grants have no match requirements, and some provide waivers for Tribal applicants.

·Exclusion of the Under-Resourced: This matching requirement means Cash-strapped organizations are often locked out of applying because they lack the

reserve funds or staff required to leverage the grant.

4. The Administrative Burden is Heavy

Before an award is made, grant writers research funding opportunities, assess eligibility and fit, coordinate with Tribal departments, develop narratives and budgets, gather required approvals and documents, and submit applications by strict deadlines. This pre-award work is an important part of turning community priorities into fundable projects. Successfully managing a grant requires strong organizational infrastructure, responsible project management, and strict compliance.

- Post-Award Labor: Winning the grant is only step one. Afterward, you must track data, save every receipt, and write detailed progress, interim, and final reports. These reports must follow the funder's exact deadlines and formatting requirements to prove their money is making an impact.
- Infrastructure Costs: Compliance requires dedicated staff time and robust accounting support. Small teams often lack organizational capacity, as one person or department can only manage so many projects at once.

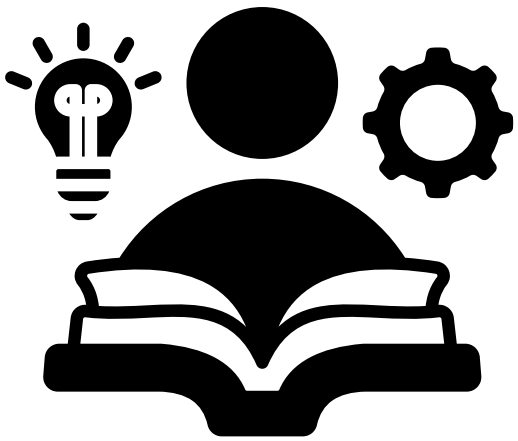
5. They Are Not Permanent Revenue

Grants are temporary injections of capital, not sustainable long-term business models.

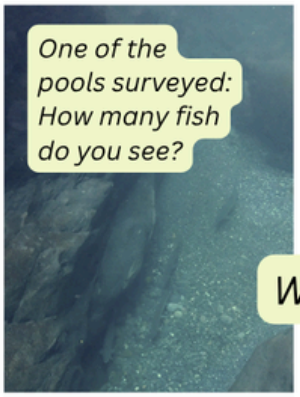
- Grant Periods: Grant awards may support a project for one-year or multiple years, depending on the program. Departments should plan ahead to sustain their program after the grant award period ends.
- The "Cliff Effect": Relying on a grant as your primary source of funding means your program faces a sudden financial cliff the day the grant period expires, unless you have a sustainability plan in place. The department must develop a sustainability plan to continue a program through future funding, partnerships, or the Tribal budget. Some one-time projects do not need continued funding after completion.
- Unforeseen Roadblocks: Even after receiving funding, external factors can derail a project. Loss of key staff, environmental hazards, rising material costs, and contractor shortages can all disrupt your timeline and budget, requiring careful crisis management.

While the process of grant writing and management has challenges, the Tribe has successfully used grants to support many projects both large and small. Grant funding has supported most all our departments and programs throughout the years and makes community projects, services, infrastructure improvements, and cultural preservation possible. That is why the work of grant writing and management matters to our Tribal community.

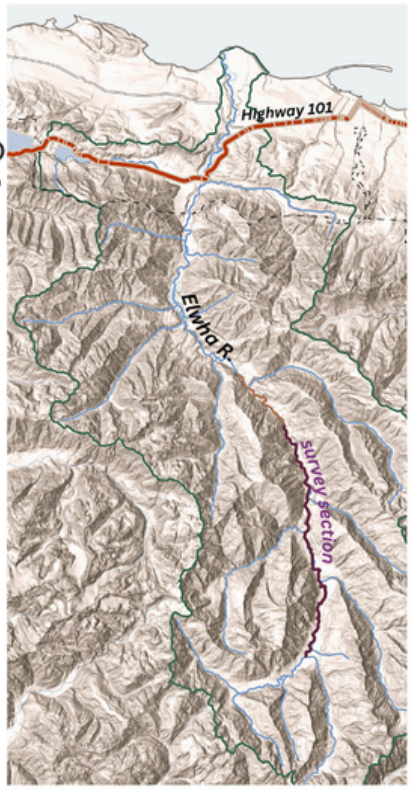
Planning Department: Arlene Wheeler, Director; Delsen Lauderback, Senior Grant Writer; Cathy Cooke, Grant Writer



Record summer steelhead numbers seen in upper river

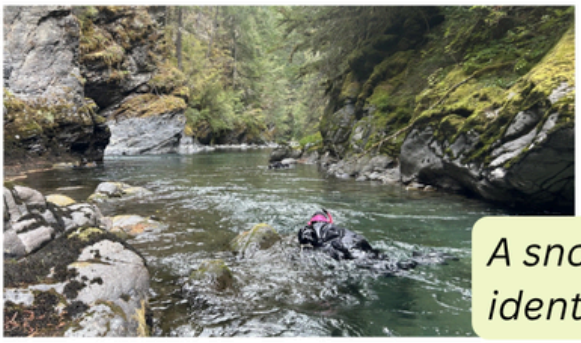


628 summer steelhead were observed this September - more than double last year's count! Snorkelers surveyed the reach outlined in purple on the map, above a deep canyon known as the Elwha 'Grand Canyon'



What's so special about Summer steelhead?

	WINTER run	SUMMER run
FRESHWATER ENTRY	November–April	May–October
SPAWN TIMING	Soon after entering the river.	Hold in cold, deep pools until the following spring.
WHY IT MATTERS	Typical seasonal pattern.	A rare self-sustaining upper-Elwha run.



Summer steelhead were once thought to be lost in the Elwha due to the dams but have shown a natural "reawakening" of their unique life history following dam removal.

A snorkeler enters a calm section of the upper river, identifying and counting fish as they float downstream.

FINAL CLIMATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING!

Join us for a free lunch and to help shape the future of our climate change resilience by sharing your feedback on the draft.

Save the Date!



12:30-2PM

Natural resouces building



PLEASE RSVP:

Contact
cameron.macias@elwha.org
360-457-4012 ext. 7499
chelsea.korbulic@elwha.org
360-457-4012 ext. 7500



Join us for planting in former Aldwell reservoir November 7th 10AM-1PM

Please use the QR code to register through the Clallam Conservation District →

WomenSpirit Coalition

17th Annual

17th Amethyst Awards & Silent Auction

Honoring Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocates and First Responders

October 1, 2026
12–2 PM

Field Arts & Events Hall

201 W. Front Street
Port Angeles, WA

Award Recipients

ADVOCACY

Holly Skinner
Advocate, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Elouise Zapata
DV Advocate, Noosack Indian Tribe

Leslie Bond
Executive Director & Advocate, Healthy Families of Clallam County

Molly Ramsey
Victim Witness Coordinator, Clallam County's Prosecutor's Office

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Jessica Ramirez
Puyallup Tribe of Indians

Brian George
Chief of Police, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

TRIBAL COURTS

Rachel Johnson
Court Representative & Grants Manager, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

HEALTH PROVIDER

Marjorie Basballe
Therapist & Advocate, Puyallup Tribe

Melissa Ellis
Youth SANE Nurse, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

INSPIRATIONAL SURVIVOR

Mandy Wilbur
Community Member, Skokomish Indian Tribe

Recognizing your journey to wellness as a survivor.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Frances G. Charles
Former Tribal Chairwoman of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Current Tribal Council Member

In service to the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Community.

ORIGNAL WOMENSPIRIT COALITION EXECUTIVE BUSINESS COMMITTEIE CIRCA 2002 ◇ 2020

Rita Andrews
Skokomish Indian Tribe

Cliff Moore
No affiliation provided

Gloria J. Hill
Squaxin Island Tribe

ADDITIONAL RECOGNITION

Kristina Pearson
Director of Duwamish Social Services

WomenSpirit Coalition and the Sayu' X Wey Family Safety Center
526 N. 5th Ave. • Sequim, WA • WOMENSPIRIT.NET

Amethyst Awards Recognition

The 17th Annual Indigenous Amethyst Award took place at the Field Arts & Events Hall on October 1st. Three tribal employees were award recipients. Rachel Johnson received an award as the Court representation for the Lower Elwha Justice Center, Melissa "Shandy" Ellis received an award as the SANE Nurse for the SART Program at the Lower Elwha Health Department, and Frances "Gator" Charles received the Lifetime Achievement award in service to the Lower Elwha Tribal Community. The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) is located at the Lower Elwha Health Department. Shandy Ellis is the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. The Lower Elwha Health Department is the only facility in the County that does pediatric SANE exams.

The featured picture left to right, back to front is of Melissa Bolstrom: Advocate/Community Outreach Specialist for the Lower Elwha SART & Lower Elwha Family Advocacy. Bobi Clark: Lower Elwha Health Department Administrative Assistant. Melissa "Shandy" Ellis: Lower Elwha Health Department Community Health Nurse & SART SANE Nurse. Rachel Johnson Lower Elwha Justice Center Court Administrator. Frances "Gator" Charles: Councilwoman. Beatriz Arakawa: Lower Elwha Family Advocacy Victim Advocate & Program Manager. Harmony Arakawa: Community Cultural Specialist.





HEALING WITH HOPE
BEGINS WITH ONE STEP FORWARD IN FAITH

WomenSpirit COALITION
Washington State Native American Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

SAYU'ʔ X WEY FAMILY SAFETY CENTER
Victim-Survivor Centered Multi-Service Center
Collaborative Hope for All Families

WOMENSPIRIT COALITION
Technical Assistance Provider
Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs

REACH OUT TO US:
526 N. 5TH AVE. • SEQUIM, WA • WOMENSPIRIT.NET

LOWER ELWHA FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Mission: Survivor's Safey and Autonomy through Advocacy and Awareness

- Advocacy - Domestic, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Sex Trafficking.
- Protection Orders
- Resources & Referrals
- Case Managment Assistance
- Support for court related appointments.
- Prevention & Awareness
- Crisis Intervention Support
- Address Confidentiality Program

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

Contact Information

Beatriz Arakawa, Program Manager, Office: 360-565-7257, Ext. 7453

Lower Elwha Social Services | Cell: 360-460-1745 | 360-775-9346 - Emergency Phone Number

Congratulations













The Aunties Weaving Club

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
10AM - 2PM

Join us every week as we weave holiday decorations and ornaments out of cedar. Open to everyone - bring snacks to share!

Elwha Klallam Heritage Center
401 E First St Port Angeles, WA 98362
(360) 417-8545

November Home Maintenance Tips

Home Maintenance Savings

A common rule is to save 1% to 3% of your home's value per year for maintenance in repairs. For example, if your home is worth $300,000, aim to set aside $3,000 to $9,000 annually. Any amount of savings helps if a problem comes up that needs to be addressed. An "emergency fund" ensures you are not caught off guard by unplanned expenses.

Regular Monthly Maintenance

- HVAC Filters: Check and replace or wash (depending on the type of filter) to maintain air quality and lower energy bills. Check the instruction book or search online by model number to see how often the air filters should be changed.
- Smoke/CO Detectors: Press the test button to ensure they work properly. Change batteries as needed.
- GFCI Outlets: Test and reset safety outlets in wet areas (bathrooms, kitchens, laundry, garages).
- Kitchen & Bathrooms: Clear slow drains and run the garbage disposal with ice cubes and baking soda. Check for leaking pipes, faucets, showers.
- Washing Machine: Run a self-clean cycle and wipe down the rubber seal to prevent mold.
- Dryer Vents: Check dryer vents for lint buildup.
- Security System: Regularly check the alarms and circuit breakers to ensure they are in working order. Inspect the sensors one by one.

November

- Pipes: Wrap insulation around outdoor faucets and pipes in unheated spaces.
- Weatherization: Inspect home insulation and window/door weatherstripping for drafts.
- Winterize Exterior: Drain and store garden hoses. Cover or store outdoor furniture.
- Close Foundation Vents: Crawl space ventilation is good for your home during the Spring, Summer, and Fall. However, during the Winter months, closing the vents can help lower your heating costs.
- Ceiling Fans: Dust the ceiling fan blades. Reverse ceiling fans to spin clockwise to push warm air down.

Other Forgotten Home Maintenance Tasks

- Clean refrigerator coils. Dust collects on the coil making the fridge run hot and waist power. Pull the refrigerator out and unplug it, then vacuum the back. While you're there, sweep the floor.
- Replace water filters in your refrigerator if necessary.
- Service bathroom exhaust fans. Turn off the power (at the breaker box), pop off grill to vacuum and wipe the inside of the fan and housing.
- Windows/Doors have tiny "weep" holes at the bottom sill; if blocked, the sills hold water and rot. Use a cotton swab or plastic pick to clean the holes, then test by flushing with a squeeze bottle to make sure the water flows to the exterior.
- Remind yourself where your main shutoffs are and label them if needed. You need to know where the main water, gas and electrical shutoffs are in case of emergency.

Shaker Church News

Courtesy news for the Lower Elwha Tribal Community

November 2026

Dear Lower Elwha Tribal Community,

On behalf of the Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church, I provide this update to our Tribal community regarding the continued work and service of our Church.

On October 9-11, 2026, I attended the 2026 Washington State Convention of the 1910 Indian Shaker Church at the Mud Bay Shaker Church in Shelton, Washington. During the convention, I presented both a verbal and written annual report as Minister of the Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church to our Bishop and Head Elders.

Each year, each 1910 Indian Shaker Church is required to provide an annual report of their activities in accordance with Washington State auditing requirements. The acceptance of our 2025-2026 report fulfills this annual reporting responsibility and places the Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church in good standing.

2025-2026 Church Activities

Throughout the 2025-2026 reporting year, we continued to serve our Tribal community and neighboring communities. Therefore, I reported the following activities performed by our church:

- Funerals: 2
- Weddings: 0
- Baptisms: 0
- House Shakes: 5
- House Blessings: 4
- Brush Outs: 16
- Building Blessings: 3
- Home/Hospital Visits: 13
- Church Travels: 22
- Church Openings: 3

These activities reflect the continuing responsibility of our church officers to provide spiritual care to our people.

2026 Election of Bishop and Head State Elders

It was also an election year for the Washington State Board of the 1910 Indian Shaker Church. The following officers were elected to serve:

- Bishop: Dennis Anderson Sr. (Muckleshoot)
- 1st Head State Elder: Jimmie Tyler Jr. (Satus)
- 2nd Head State Elder: Francis (Hoss) Tulee (White Swan)
- 3rd Head State Elder: Charlotte Penn (La Push)
- 4th Head State Elder: Jonathan J. Arakawa (Lower Elwha)
- 5th Head State Elder: Wayne Barr (Mud Bay)

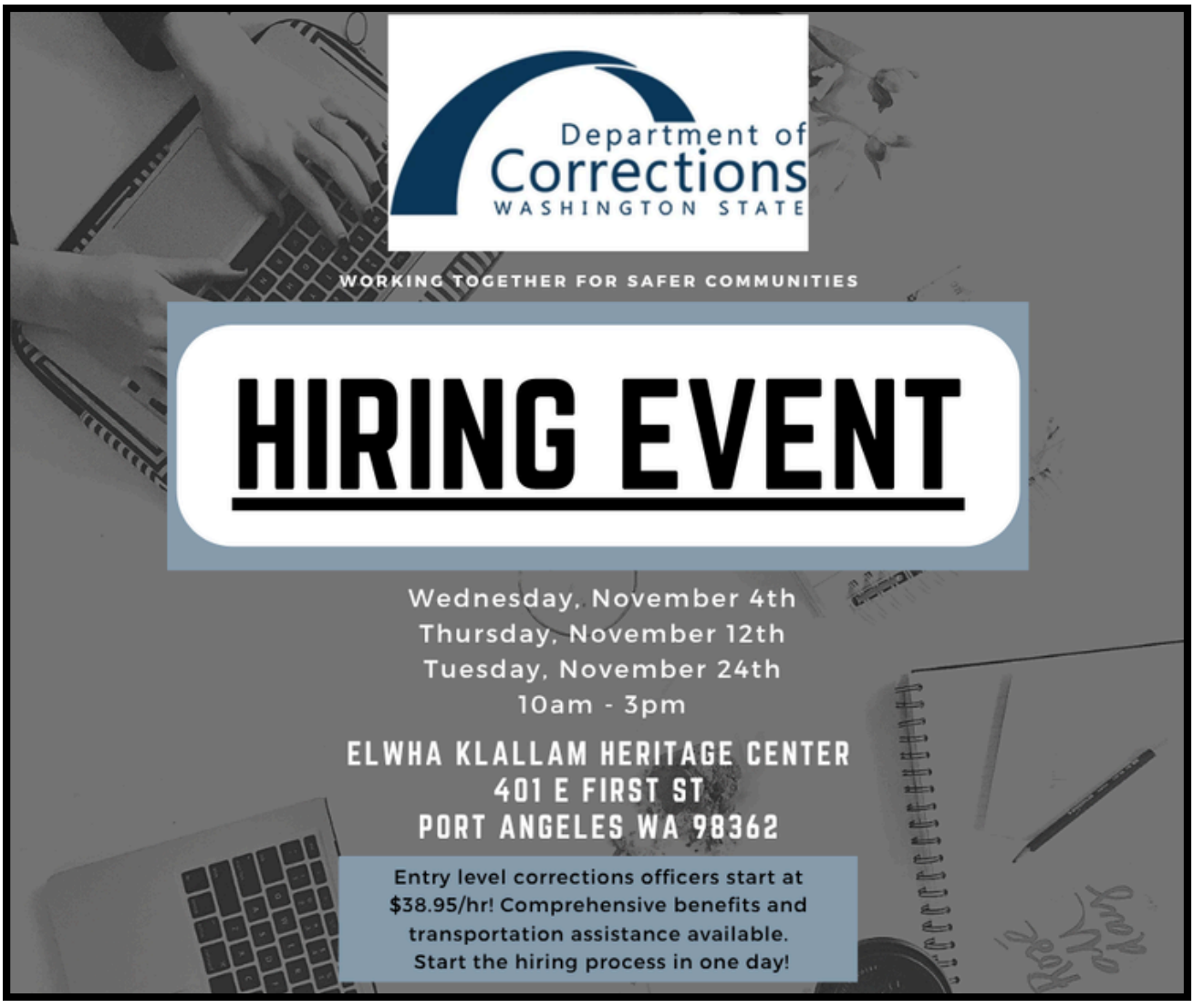
The Washington State Board oversees all 35 Shaker Churches throughout Washington, Oregon, California, and Canada. It is believed that each leader is handpicked by God; no one campaigns or seeks the position. We pray for our top leaders as they provide leadership, guidance, and oversight.

Continuing Our Responsibility

The Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church remains active and committed to serving the spiritual needs of the Lower Elwha Tribal Community. Maintaining our Church in good standing is an important responsibility to our congregation, our Tribal community, the 1910 Indian Shaker Church, and the generations who entrusted this way of prayer to us.

We are grateful to all those who continue to support and participate in the life of our Church. As we move into another year, we will continue to uphold our responsibilities with prayer. God bless you and your families. Masi.

Respectfully,
Jonathan J. Arakawa
Minister, Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church



EMPOWERING THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

TVR's mission is to provide a compassionate, holistic approach in serving Native Americans and Alaska Natives with disabilities. We support individuals in achieving meaningful and stable employment through training and supportive services, fostering self-sufficiency, reducing reliance on public assistance, and strengthening the Tribal community as a whole.

Eligibility for Services:

1. Enrolled with a State or Federally recognized tribe.
2. Reside within the service area.
3. Have a physical or mental disability, documented with a provider.
4. Employment barriers.
5. The applicant requires TVR services to obtain or maintain employment.

What may be considered a disability?

- Mental Health Diagnosis
- Substance use disorder diagnosis
- Blind/Low Vision
- Back/Brain/Limb injury or limitations
- Intellectual/developmental disabilities
- Hearing impairment
- Other physical or mental disabilities that prevent the person from finding and/or keeping employment.

Services Available:

- Vocational Skills Assessment
- Career Counseling & Guidance
- Vocational Training and Education
- Post employment services
- Transportation assistance for job related activities
- Supported employment services, including job placement and job coaching
- On-the-job training (OJT)
- Referral to other community resources
- Job Search Skill Development
- Assistance with work related support services: tools, equipment, license fees, work clothes, uniforms and safety equipment

TVR Team Information

Elwha Heritage Center - (360) 417-8545
Jim Allen, Program Manager
Keeoma Messenger, TVR Counselor

Elwha Social Services - (360) 565-7257
Jeremy Acosta, TVR Counselor

More information at QR Code

TRIBAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM
ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE
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www.facebook.com/LEKTVR

November Birthdays

November 1st
Quanah Wheeler
Alexandra Rapoza
Christina Bennett
Kevin Clark
Charlene Hawk
Pam Johnson
Larissa Gloria

November 2nd
Cedar Charles

November 3rd
Elmer Charles

November 4th
Jay Bolstrom
Isaiah Charles
Joseph La Chester

November 5th
Norman Charles
Julette Elofson

November 6th
Mario Gloria
Patrick Schaeffer
Anthony Green

November 7th
Margie Macias
William Reems Jr
Keith Clark

November 8th
Tara Sharpe
Meilah Bunch
Michael Sarich Jr
Donna Goldsbury

November 9th
Tatum Moses

November 10th
Mariesa Charles
Beverly Bennett
Kenneth Arakawa Jr

November 11th
Isabel Turrey
Mya Clark
Julie Erickson
Chauncey Black Crow
Tristen Konopaski

November 12th
Joliene La Chester
Debra Rindels
Sandra Charles

November 13th
Elilyah Jackson
Lola Bright
Duane Stephan Jr

November 14th
Roger Tinoco-Wheeler

November 15th
Brandon Bennett

November 17th
Cecelia Leonato

November 18th
Anthony Fernandes
Kiara Point

November 19th
Alexander Fernandes

November 20th
Theron Zmuda
Ruben Peters
Kelly McCrory

November 22nd
Nicole Yazzie
Ashley Tinoco

November 23rd
Robert Francis Jr
Rachelle Wheeler
Loretta Vollin

November 24th
Tera Williams
Shawnee Tom
Karalynn Menihane

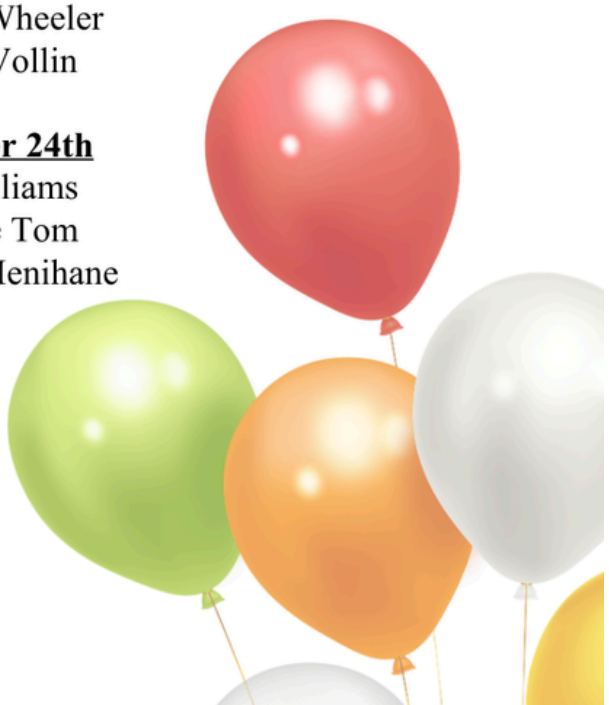
November 25th
Jessica Gloria
Robert Cayenne
Sta-Muh-stoot Redner

November 26th
Denton Adams Jr
Dancen Charles

November 27th
Katie Woods
Janelle Charles
Daniel Bennett Jr

November 28th
Kameron Tinoco

November 30th
Kelly Johnson
Sparrow Little Youngman
Melaine Wheeler
Jalen Sampson
Ryan Charles-Elofson
Leona McKinnon



Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
2851 Lower Elwha Rd
Port Angeles, WA 98363

Tribal Holiday Closure

November 11th - Veteran's Day
November 26th & 27th - Thanksgiving Holiday